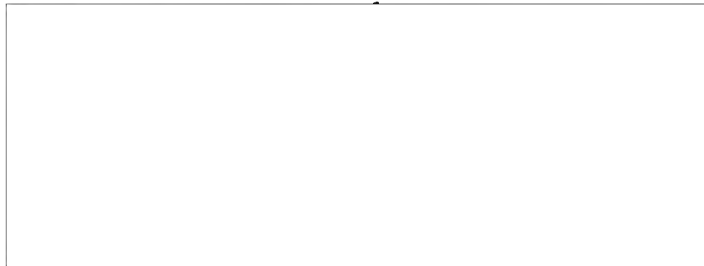


THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

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ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

15 NOVEMBER 1962
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Cuba

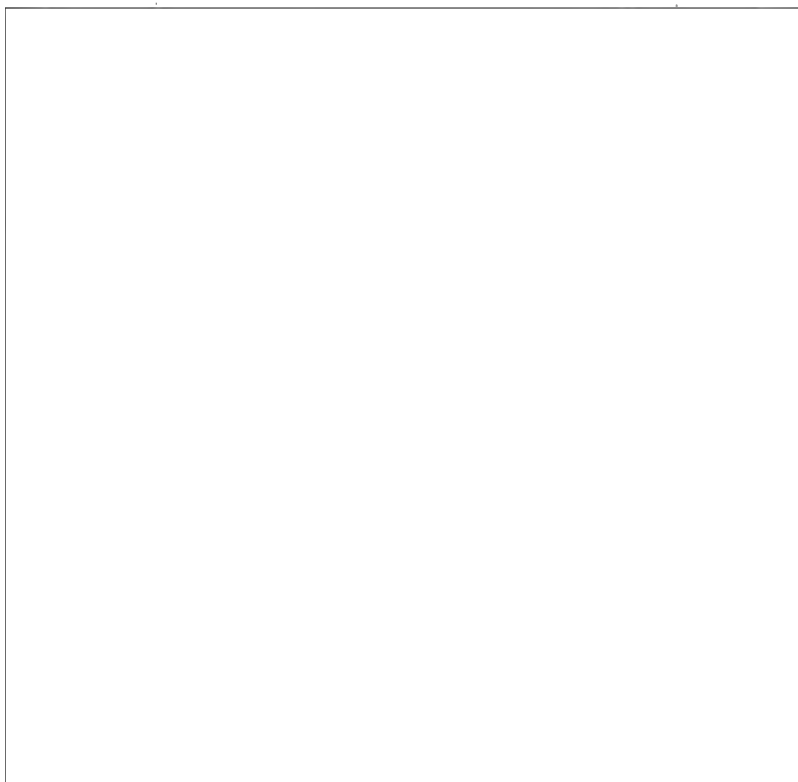
a. Yesterday's reconnaissance missions, hampered by bad weather, turned up nothing significantly new.

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2. Jordan-Yemen



3. Laos

a. Phoumi professes to believe now that Souvanna will not throw in his hand in the immediate future. This seems, however, to be based more on his sense of Souvanna's mood than on anything concrete.

b. There is nothing to indicate that Souvanna can count any more than before on the cooperation of Souphannouvong, who still remains away from Vientiane.

c. There are a number of signs that the Pathet Lao - North Vietnamese are working from the assumption that the coalition is headed toward collapse.

d. Within the Pathet Lao, there is talk of a resumption of full-scale hostilities should Souvanna succumb to frustration and resign.

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f. There are also indications [redacted] work is under way on the improvement of trails leading from North Vietnam into Laos to enable them to handle vehicles. [redacted]

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4. Congo

a. A new test of strength between UN and Katangan forces is building up.

b. UN troops reconnoitering in the Kongolo area of North Katanga have been authorized from New York to engage "attackers" in the air or on the ground.

c. To the south, the UN forces are getting ready to carry out long-deferred plans to establish themselves in Jadotville and Kolwezi, both of which are, in turn, being reinforced by Katangan gendarmes and mercenaries.

5. Soviet bloc agriculture

a. Khrushchev has put himself on record in the Soviet press with a prediction that, when the totals are in, this year's grain harvest will add up to 147 million metric tons. This would be a nice figure to lay before the Central Committee when it meets next Monday to survey the agricultural scene. From all of the indicators we have seen, however, the figure will be closer to 115 million tons, about the same as last year's output.

b. This, plus poor performance in other key agricultural categories, probably means that the Central Committee will end by ordering broad changes in the organization and management of agriculture.

(Cont'd)

c. Among the satellites, the Bulgarians seem to be in the same plight in agriculture as their East German and Czech comrades. In the aftermath of the worst harvest in years, probably since 1956, there are reports that rationing has gone into effect on a number of basic food items.

NOTES

- A. Sino-Indian Border There is no new word on the military situation on the Chinese-Indian border.

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[REDACTED]

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- B. Brazil-Bloc Brazilian officials are talking with both the Soviets and the Czechs about setting up commercial air links between Brazil and the bloc.

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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- E. EEC-UK The Italians, trying to play an honest broker's role, say that the Adenauer government is staying very much in step with De Gaulle and is offering no help in speeding UK membership in the EEC.

DOCUMENTS OF INTEREST

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I.

II.